

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.

09/438,392

Confirmation No. 9249

Applicant

Takashi AOYAMA 12 November 1999

Filed TC/A.U.

Examiner

1635

Jane J. Zara

Docket No.

2312-105

Customer No.:

6449

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed 5 November 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected in the amended paragraphs which begin on page 2 of this paper. Material added has been indicated by underlining (underlining) and material deleted has been indicated by strikethrough (strikethrough).

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper. Material added has been indicated by underlining (underlining) and material deleted has been indicated by strikethrough (strikethrough).

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.